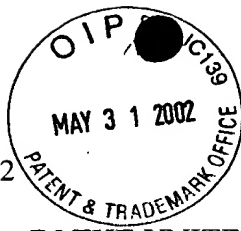


0557-4931-2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
KATSUHIRO AOKI ET AL. : GROUP ART UNIT: 2852
SERIAL NO: 09/535,158 :
FILED: MARCH 24, 2000 : EXAMINER: GRAINGER, Q.
FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
METHOD AND DEVELOPING DEVICE
TO OBTAIN A STABLE IMAGE DENSITY

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed March 15, 2002, please note the following remarks traversing the rejection of Claims 1-29.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the following discussion.

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application.

The outstanding Official Action includes rejections of Claims 1, 2, 15, 16, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ono (JP-8-297413-A) in view of what the Action mistakenly characterizes as “admitted prior art of record,” of Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 26, 28, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,689,784, Shin) in view of the mistakenly characterized “admitted prior art of record,” and of Claims 4, 6, 8-11, 13, 18, 20, 22-25, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as

#11/Reo.
Recom.
6/5/02
Hayes

RECEIVED
JUN -3 2002
TC 2800 MAIL ROOM